



Congressman Kurt Schrader Oregon's Fifth District

Principles for Health Reform

One of the biggest challenges facing our economy is the skyrocketing cost of medical coverage. It is imperative to our long term economic stability and health as a nation that we reform our healthcare system. The current healthcare system is unsustainable and we need to implement reforms that will keep costs down while providing a higher quality of care.

Health reform should:



Lower the increasing cost of healthcare without burdening the middle class with higher taxes



Be fully paid for and add nothing to our national debt



Be affordable to taxpayers, businesses and the individual



Require individuals, businesses, providers, and taxpayers to take shared responsibility for healthcare



Include a public option that encourages competition on a level playing field



Focus on prevention to keep Americans healthier while keeping costs down over their lifetime



Do no harm to our seniors and must begin to close the doughnut hole in Medicare Part D



Reward doctors for the quality of their care—not for the quantity of services they provide



Focus on primary care to lower costs in the long run and to improve your level of care



Ensure that doctors and patients have access to the information they need in order to choose the most effective treatments possible